

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Flooding in Hampton

The significant rainfall this morning created flooding issues in several neighborhoods and city streets. Most notably, two apartment complexes -- Paula Maria and Century Plaza -- saw flooding in some of the first floor units.

Fire crews went to Paula Maria and Century Plaza with boats and high-water vehicles and have temporarily relocated some residents. They waited at Fire Station 9 until they could relocate with friends and other family members.

The city opened a shelter at Eaton Middle School, 2108 Cunningham Drive, at 1 p.m. to assist residents who have evacuated and have no place to relocate. Hampton Social Services personnel will staff the shelter. At this time, there is no one seeking shelter.

Thirty-six apartment units were affected at Paula Maria Apartments and 8 units at Century Plaza Apartments. Some of the apartments have 8 inches to 10 inches of water in them. Fire personnel evacuated 27 residents. One person was transported to a hospital for a medical complaint unrelated to the flooding.

Public Works crews have been checking all major drainage systems throughout the city and report that they are functioning properly. The volume of rainfall was just too much for the system to handle immediately.

Codes inspectors are assessing the affected apartments and have determined that some units cannot be reoccupied.

The Northampton Branch Library is closed today due to high water in the parking lot and surrounding area.

There could be additional flooding when high tide occurs around 4:30 p.m. The Fire Department is prepared for additional evacuations if necessary.